

**Iowa Department of Public Health
Patient-Centered Health Advisory Council
2016 End of Session Legislative Discussion
May 20, 2016**



Local Public Health Flexibility – IDPH Policy Bill

The Council supports enabling legislation to allow Local Boards of Health to voluntarily enter into larger regional units or other innovative arrangements in order to provide improved services to their residence.

- SF 2159 passed the legislature unanimously and was signed by the Governor on March 24, 2016. Thank you for your support! Next steps are to address the legislative intent included in the bill for the Public Health Advisory Council:

It is the intent of the general assembly that Iowa's governmentally sponsored public health system be effective, efficient, well-organized, and well-coordinated in order to have the greatest impact on the improvement of health status for all Iowans. The governmental public health advisory council is intended to support this goal, and is established to provide recommendations to the director of the department to support improved organization and delivery of critical public health services across the state.

Workforce

1. *The Council supports fully funding Iowa's Rural Primary Care Loan Repayment Program.*

- Received status quo funding for FY 2017.

2. *The Council supports IDPH's evaluation of their health workforce development programs. The Council would like to revisit this topic once the evaluation is complete.*

- Final revisions are being completed. Should be ready for release very soon.

3. 2016 Legislative Directive in HF 2460, the FY 2016 Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill:

c. The department of public health shall submit a report to the individuals identified in this Act for submission of reports by December 15, 2016, regarding a proposal for realigning, bundling, redistributing, or otherwise adjusting the department's funding streams to reflect the department's priorities and goals and to provide increased flexibility in the distribution of funding to meet these priorities and goals. The proposal shall specifically include recommendations for a broader, more systematic and strategic workforce initiative which may include a comprehensive study of workforce program needs and the establishment of an advisory workgroup. The proposal shall also specifically include strategies, developed in collaboration with the department of education, to encourage elementary and secondary education students to pursue careers in the fields of health and health care.

- The proposal is required to include recommendations for a strategic workforce initiative and collaboration with the Department of Education on a K-12 pipeline program. The initiative may include a study of workforce program needs and possible establishment of an advisory council.

Other topics of interest

Anti-Opioid Antagonist Bill, SF 2218, HF 2460 – aka Naloxone or Narcan Bill

- Increases access to anti-opioid antagonists, like naloxone or narcan, for "persons in a position to assist" (e.g., family members or friends) a person with a substance use disorder. Also permits use by all levels of EMS and fire fighters and law enforcement. Allows MDs, DOs, ARNPs and PAs to prescribe the medicine to the agencies and for pharmacists to be able to dispense to them.

Behavioral Health Disclosure for Patient Care Coordination, SF 2144

- Relaxes Iowa's laws around disclosure of behavioral health prescription drug order and other clinical-related information. Protects the privacy of patient notes.

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Meningococcal Immunization Requirement, HF 2460 - Division XXI

- Requires proof of a meningococcal immunization before entering 7th or 12th grades in accordance with recommendations from the CDC.
- Philosophical exemption amendment filed but not adopted on SF 2136.

Psychology Prescribing Bill, SF 2188

- Creates a new licensure type under the Board of Psychology that permits psychologists who meet specified training requirements to prescribe specified medications on a limited basis.

Telepharmacy Bill, SF 453

- Creates a new licensure type under the Board of Pharmacy for telepharmacy sites.

Medical Cannabis, HSB 607, HF 2384, H-8290

- HSB 607 introduced as the bill of choice by pro-medical cannabis advocates. Creates a vertical infrastructure seed to shop system in Iowa, regulated by IDPH. Expands the current conditions covered to a set of 17 specified diagnosed illnesses or generally defined symptoms or health conditions.
- HF 2384 was the heavily amended House Commerce Committee version of HSB 607 that died in the House Ways & Means Committee.
- Amendment H-8290 was introduced by Representative Zach Nunn as a compromise. It was the only floor vote taken on medical cannabis by either chamber in 2016. It did not pass.

Patient-Centered Health Advisory Council directive in SF 2107, Medicaid Program Oversight

- Directed the Patient-Centered Health Advisory Council to assess the health resources and infrastructure of the state to recommend more appropriate alignment with changes in health care delivery and the integrated, holistic, population health-based approach to health and health care. The council would also be required to assist in efforts to evaluate the health workforce to inform policymaking and resource allocation. A reporting requirement was also included.
- Not included in the final negotiations in the HF 2460, FY 2017 Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill.